Promotion of IFS Officers

3163. SHRI THANGATAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have amended the promotion rule from 'Merit Based' to 'Seniority Based' regarding promotion of Grade-I IFS (B) officers recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the relevant rule has been notified, if so, the details thereof;

(d) if answer to part (a) is no, whether it is a fact that Government has DPC recently for promotion to Grade-I IFS (B) Officers without following the existing rules; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith corrective measures Government proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Foreign Service, Branch B (Recruitment, Cadre, Seniority and Promotion) Rules, 1964 and the Indian Foreign Service, Branch B (Promotion to Grade I Regulations), 1975 have been amended to replace 'merit' by 'selection' in accordance with the extant DOP&T guidelines.

(c) The above amendments have been notified in the Gazette of India on March 4, 2005.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Recovery of EPF Dues from Private and Public Sector Undertakings

3164. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount of Employees Provident Fund is due from Private and Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of defaulting companies and the amount due against each as on 31st March, 2005;

(c) whether there is a proposal to amend the provisions of the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act to avoid litigation in recovery of EPF dues from defaulting undertakings; and

(d) if so, by when this is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 31.03.2005, a sum of Rs. 2,082.91 crore approximately is pending recovery from defaulting establishments. A list of establishments in default of over Rs. One crore is given in Annexure. [See Appendix 204, Annexure No 25]

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Proposals from Maharasthra on Child Labour

3165. SHRI BALAVANT ALMS BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have been submitting project-proposals for Child Labour Education and Rehabilitation, under the National Child Labour Project;

(b) what are the policies adopted by Government to give relief to the educated and unskilled unemployment landless people;

(c) the number of child labour to be covered and the amount of Central aid sought for the same in the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and the current year and the aid granted against the demand; and

(d) the reasons for delay in clearance of the proposals and grant-in-aid this year?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) The State Government of Maharashtra has been submitting proposals for child labour education and rehabilitation under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme. Maharashtra had 2 districts, namely, Solapur and Thane under the NCLP Scheme in the 9th Plan. 11 more districts namely, Nanded, Nasik, Yavatmal, Dhule, Beed, Pune, Ahmadnagar, Sangli, Kolhapur, Jalgaon and Nandurbar have been included in the NCLP Scheme during the 10th Plan.